

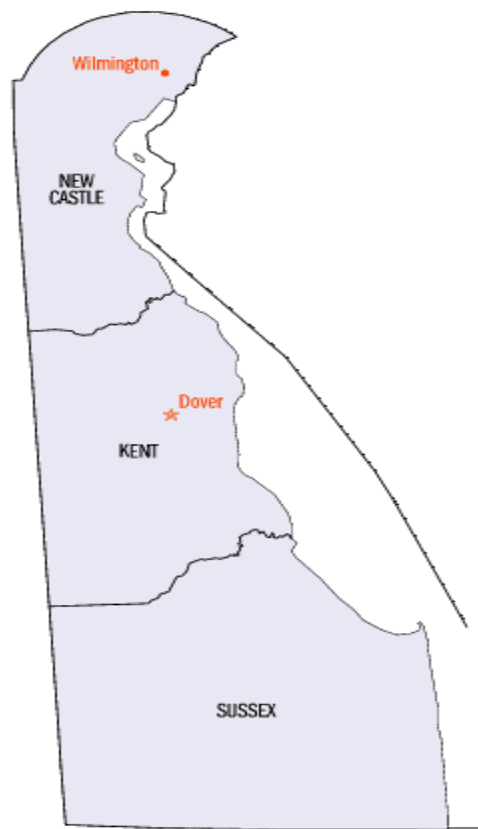
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of Delaware

Profile of Drug Indicators

August 2002



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

Delaware

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

Demographics¹

- Population: 796,165 (2001 estimate); 783,600 (2000 Census); 666,168 (1990 Census)
- Race/Ethnicity (2000 Census): 74.6% white; 19.2% black/African American; 0.3% American Indian/Alaska Native; 2.1% Asian; 2.0% other race; 1.7% two or more races; 4.8% Hispanic/Latino origin

Politics

- Governor: Ruth Ann Minner²
- Lt. Governor: John Carney, Jr.³
- Attorney General: M. Jane Brady⁴
- U.S. Senate: Joseph Biden, Jr. (D); Thomas Carper (D)⁵
- U.S. House of Representatives: Michael N. Castle⁶
- Capital: Dover⁷

Programs/Initiatives

- Drug-Free Delaware⁸
Launched in December 1997 and an element of Delaware's anti-drug public information campaign, the Drug-Free Delaware campaign primarily targets youth in grades 5-8 as well as their parents, families, and teachers. The Web site associated with the campaign includes comprehensive data about the extent of drug and alcohol abuse in Delaware, resources for concerned citizens, and a summary of the legal consequences of possessing and selling drugs.

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in Delaware:⁹
 - FY 2001: \$100,000 to the University of Delaware's University/Schools Alliance's (USA) Partners in Prevention, Newark.
 - FY 2000: \$100,000 to the Delaware Prevention Coalition's Southern Partnerships, Georgetown.
 - FY 1999: \$100,000 to the New Castle County Community Partnership, New Castle.
- Executive Office for Weed and Seed¹⁰
Wilmington became one of the first cities to receive official recognition and funding as a Weed and Seed site in 1992. The purpose of the Wilmington Weed and Seed is to prevent and control violent crime and drug abuse on the Westside of Wilmington.
- FY 2001/2002 SAMHSA Formula and Discretionary Grant Allotments Summary for Delaware:¹¹
 - Formula Funding - \$8,153,344
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant - \$6,468,750
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant - \$999,694
 - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) - \$300,000

- Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant - \$384,900
- Discretionary Funding - \$3,772,653
 - Mental Health - \$3,321,839
 - Substance Abuse Treatment - \$450,814
- Total Mental Health Funds: \$5,006,433
- Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$6,919,564
- Total Funds for Delaware: \$11,925,997
- FY 2002 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to Delaware: \$2,388,472¹²
- FY 2001 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Formula Grant amount allocated to Delaware: \$374,713.¹³

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- There were more than 30,000 adult arrests in Delaware during 2000. Twenty-nine of the arrests were for murder.¹⁴

Number of Arrests, Delaware, 1999-2000

Type of Offense	<u>Juveniles</u>		<u>Adults</u>	
	1999	2000	1999	2000
Total Part I Offenses	2,505	2,581	6,644	6,878
Subtotal-Part I Violent	654	627	2,428	2,449
Murder/non-neg. manslaughter	0	3	23	29
Manslaughter by negligence	2	1	9	13
Forcible rape	76	60	242	251
Robbery	154	139	446	446
Aggravated assault	422	424	1,708	1,710
Subtotal-Part I Property	1,851	1,954	4,216	4,429
Burglary/breaking or entering	387	506	767	990
Larceny-theft	1,321	1,258	3,290	3,228
Motor vehicle theft	104	133	125	140
Arson	39	57	34	71
Drug Abuse Violations	651	723	2,857	3,280
Other Part II Offenses	4,884	5,294	23,105	20,652
Total	8,040	8,598	32,606	30,810

- The number of illicit drug complaints in Delaware during 2000 totaled 10,552, a 12.4 percent increase from the 1999 total of 9,387. The increase is a result of deploying additional officers and new specialized initiatives that target repeat offenders.¹⁵
- During 2000, there were 3,280 adult arrests and 723 juvenile arrests for drug abuse violations in Delaware. The majority of the drug arrests were for drug possession.¹⁶

Number of Drug Arrests, Delaware, 1998-2000

Type of Drug Offense	Juveniles			Adults		
	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000
Sales/Manufacture	51	65	58	440	526	607
Opium or cocaine and derivatives	43	45	32	377	442	492
Marijuana	5	16	24	58	78	107
Synthetic/manufactured narcotics	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other dangerous non-narcotics	3	4	2	5	5	8
Possession	452	586	665	2,129	2,331	2,673
Opium or cocaine and derivatives	128	108	108	939	940	996
Marijuana	315	464	544	1,170	1,367	1,644
Synthetic/manufactured narcotics	0	0	1	1	3	1
Other dangerous non-narcotics	9	14	12	19	21	32
Total Drug Abuse Arrests	503	651	723	2,569	2,857	3,280

Drugs¹⁷

➤ Cocaine

While cocaine is readily available and frequently abused throughout Delaware, Wilmington and Dover have the highest levels of cocaine abuse in the State. Distribution and use of cocaine are associated with more violent crime than any other drug. During 2001, a rock of crack cocaine sold for \$10-25 and was an average of 25 percent pure.

➤ Heroin

Low cost, high purity heroin is distributed and abused at a high rate, particularly among teens and young adults, making it Delaware's primary drug threat. South American heroin is the most common type found in Delaware. Southeast and Southwest Asian heroin are reported as occasionally available. Retail quantities of heroin (a glassine bag user dose) found in Wilmington were generally 40 to 50 percent pure and sold for \$10-20 during 2001.

➤ Marijuana

Marijuana is the most readily available, widely abused, and least expensive illicit drug in Delaware. Average marijuana prices during 2001 were as follows: \$1,160 per pound; \$260 per ounce; and \$40-50 per one-eighth of an ounce. Mexican criminal groups in Mexico, California, Arizona, and Texas produce most of the marijuana available in Delaware. It is also grown indoors and outdoors in Delaware but to a lesser extent.

➤ Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine is a growing concern to Delaware officials. While most of the methamphetamine available in the State is produced in Pennsylvania, meth produced in western states is increasingly available. Most Delaware meth users are high school and college age students and rave club patrons. During 2001, a gram of meth sold for \$20 and an ounce sold for \$1,200-1,500.

➤ Club Drugs

Increasingly available and abused by teens and young adults, MDMA poses a growing threat to Delaware. Once abused only in college towns such as Wilmington and Newark, MDMA is now also being abused in smaller towns such as Rehoboth

Beach and Dewey Beach. During 2000, one hundred MDMA tablets sold for \$1,000-1,800 in Delaware and single tablets sold for \$20-25 depending on location.

Juveniles

- A 2001 survey of Delaware high school students revealed that 51.5 percent of male and 42.5 percent of female students tried marijuana at least once in their lifetime.¹⁸

Percent of High School Students Using Selected Drugs, Delaware, 1999-2001

	<u>1999</u>			<u>2001</u>		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	51.5	42.5	48.8	51.5	42.5	46.9
Past month marijuana use	33.5	24.2	29.0	30.7	21.8	26.3
Lifetime cocaine use	7.3	7.0	7.2	6.8	5.8	6.3
Past month cocaine use	2.9	2.3	2.7	3.0	1.7	2.4
Lifetime inhalant use	11.8	12.4	12.2	12.4	8.7	10.5
Past month inhalant use	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.6	1.8	3.2
Lifetime heroin use	3.5	2.8	3.3	3.7	1.6	2.7
Lifetime methamphetamine use	6.9	6.8	7.0	8.1	5.6	6.8
Lifetime steroid use	3.9	2.3	3.2	7.2	2.3	4.8
Lifetime injection of illegal drug	2.8	1.7	2.3	2.9	0.5	1.7

- Approximately 57 percent of 12th graders surveyed in 2001 reported lifetime marijuana use.¹⁹

Percent of High School Students Using Selected Drugs, by Grade, Delaware, 2001

	9th	10th	11th	12th	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	37.5	45.9	51.7	56.8	46.9
Past month marijuana use	21.2	27.1	28.2	30.3	26.3
Lifetime cocaine use	4.9	4.7	8.1	8.6	6.3
Past month cocaine use	2.5	1.8	2.7	2.6	2.4
Lifetime inhalant use	13.0	9.4	12.0	7.0	10.5
Past month inhalant use	4.0	3.0	3.5	2.0	3.2
Lifetime heroin use	2.6	2.1	2.9	3.2	2.7
Lifetime methamphetamine use	5.3	6.6	8.1	8.2	6.8
Lifetime steroid use	4.5	5.2	6.4	3.0	4.8
Lifetime injection of illegal drug	1.5	1.6	2.1	1.8	1.7

Enforcement

- As of October 31, 2000, there were 2,974 full-time law enforcement employees in Delaware.²⁰
- Drug Unit²¹
The Delaware State Police Drug Unit is comprised of 15 officers responsible for impacting the availability of illegal drugs in Delaware.
- Financial, Organized Crime, Corruption, Asset Seizure Team (FORCAST)²²

The most visible work of Delaware State Police FORCAST officers is interstate investigations related to drugs and drug money.

Trafficking and Seizures

- Delaware is within easy driving distance of Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York City, and Washington, D.C., all of which are major drug distribution centers for Delaware. Interstate 95 provides direct access from Delaware to these and other cities.²³
- The Port of Wilmington is Delaware's principal seaport. Colombian drug trafficking organizations occasionally smuggle drugs, usually cocaine, through the port to other cities, but seizures at the Port of Wilmington remain low. From FY 1995 to FY 2000, State law enforcement officials recorded only two cocaine, one heroin, and one marijuana seizure at the Port.²⁴
- Because Delaware has no national or international airports, the airborne smuggling threat is limited.²⁵
- Local independent Caucasian and African American dealers are the major transporters and distributors of drugs in Delaware. Outlaw motorcycle gangs, such as the Pagans, also transport and distribute retail quantities of illicit drugs, primarily cocaine and methamphetamine.²⁶
- Organized street gangs, including the Latin Kings, transport and distribute cocaine and marijuana.²⁷
- Local independent MDMA dealers, frequently college students, usually distribute the drug at raves, house parties, college campuses, and bars. In January 2002, the Delaware State Assembly made trafficking in MDMA a crime with mandatory minimum sentences.²⁸
- During the first half of 2001, Delaware police seized more than 15,000 MDMA (ecstasy) tablets.²⁹
- During FY 2000, 42.9 kilograms of cocaine were seized in Delaware by Federal agencies.³⁰

Amount of Drugs Seized (in Kg.) by Federal Agencies, Delaware, FY 1995-2000

	Heroin	Cocaine	Marijuana
FY 1995	0.0	1.9	10.5
FY 1996	1.1	29.1	11.1
FY 1997	0.1	64.8	33.6
FY 1998	1.7	158.6	7.4
FY 1999	0.0	2.2	5.4
FY 2000	0.0	42.9	3.0

- More than 2,000 cultivated marijuana plants were eradicated under the Drug Enforcement Administration's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program in 2000.³¹

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, Delaware, 2000

<u>Outdoor Operations</u>			<u>Indoor Operations</u>		Total Plants Eradicated
Plots Eradicated	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Ditchweed Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	
14	1,447	803	13	828	2,275

Courts

- Drug Courts³²
As of June 6, 2002, there were seven drug courts in existence in Delaware. No additional drug courts are currently being planned.
- During FY 2000, 21.7 percent of the Federally sentenced offenders in Delaware committed a drug offense. Twelve (60 percent) of the cases involved crack cocaine.³³

Federally-Sentenced Drug Offenders, Delaware, FY 2000

Drug Type	Number	Percent
Crack cocaine	12	60.0
Powder cocaine	4	20.0
Marijuana	3	15.0
Heroin	1	5.0
Total	20	100.0

- Attorney General Drug Unit³⁴
The Drug Unit was established to work closely with law enforcement agencies during the investigative stage to provide legal advice and assistance regarding prearrest procedures as well as prosecutorial services.

Corrections

- At the end of 2001, there were 6,350 inmates within Delaware Department of Correction facilities.³⁵
- Delaware has five adult correctional facilities:³⁶
 - Delaware Correctional Center (DCC): Located in Smyrna, this is the largest adult male facility in the State with a capacity of 1,789.
 - Multi-Purpose Criminal Justice Facility (MPCJF): Wilmington; capacity of 1,180.
 - Sussex Correctional Institution (SCI): Georgetown.
 - Delores J. Baylor Women's Correctional Institution (BWCI): New Castle; this is the only women's correctional facility in Delaware.
 - John L. Webb Correctional Facility: Wilmington.
- The KEY³⁷
The KEY and KEY South are in-prison therapeutic communities for men. KEY, located at the Multi-Purpose Criminal Justice Facility, opened in July 1988, and KEY South, located at Sussex Correctional Institution, opened in November 1997. More than 300 inmates are involved in KEY programs and many were originally incarcerated for drug trafficking.

- Crest Outreach Center and Aftercare³⁸
Found at the Plummer Community Correctional Center in Wilmington, this is the nation's first residential, work-release center based on the therapeutic community. Many residents come to Crest after completing one of the KEY programs. More than 80 men and women live in the Crest Outreach Center, where offenders undergo continuous substance abuse treatment for six months. After completing Crest and being placed on probation, offenders typically go through the Aftercare program for six additional months. There are approximately 90 probationers who take part in the Aftercare program.
- BWCI Village³⁹
Located at the Delores Baylor Women's Correctional Institution, BWCI Village is a prison-based therapeutic community for women.
- A University of Delaware study found that 71 percent of offenders who completed the KEY and Crest programs had not been rearrested 18 months after their release. Only 30% of those who did not go through either program remained arrest-free.⁴⁰
- This same study revealed that 76 percent of the offenders who completed the programs did not use drugs 18 months after release, while only 19 percent of those who did not go through either program remained drug-free.⁴¹
- At the end of 2000 (December 31), there were 20,052 adults on probation in Delaware. At the same time, there were 579 adults on parole.⁴²

Treatment⁴³

- During FY 2001, Delaware's Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health funded 7,487 admissions to various treatment programs statewide.
- Heroin was the primary illicit drug reported at admission for 2,153 people.

Primary Drug at Admission, Delaware Treatment Facilities, FY 1998-2001

Drug Type	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Alcohol	2,069	2,429	2,759	2,553
Heroin	2,040	2,393	2,356	2,153
Cocaine	437	521	491	430
Crack cocaine	856	936	974	854
Marijuana/hashish	669	838	1,039	1,283
Amphetamines	13	9	14	10
Other opiates and synthetics	33	46	48	107
Other/missing/unknown	178	111	108	97
Total	6,295	7,283	7,789	7,487

Sources

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- ² Delaware Web site: <http://www.delaware.gov/>
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- ⁴ Delaware Attorney General Web site: <http://www.state.de.us/attgen/index.htm>
- ⁵ U.S. Senate Web site: <http://www.senate.gov/>
- ⁶ U.S. House of Representatives Web site: <http://clerkweb.house.gov/107/olm107.php3>
- ⁷ U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>
- ⁸ Drug-Free Delaware Web site: <http://www.state.de.us/drugfree/index.htm>
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- ¹⁴ Delaware Criminal Justice Council, *Crime in Delaware 2000*, December 2001
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- ³⁴ Attorney General Drug Unit Web site: <http://www.state.de.us/attgen/organiza.htm>
- ³⁵ Delaware Department of Corrections, Profile of Total Inmate Population: <http://www.state.de.us/correct/Data/Facts/PopulationFactSheet1982-2001.pdf>
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⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Probation and Parole in 2000*, August 2001:

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This State Profile was prepared by the ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is funded by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and is a component of the [National Criminal Justice Reference Service](#). For further information concerning the contents of this profile or other drug policy issues, contact:

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